



**PUBLIC ART AND CULTURAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 24th, 2015**

Board Members in Attendance: Chair Jaan Ferree, Jennifer Bowen, Johnson Bowles, Councilman Cecil Bothwell, Jay Miller, Constance Richards, Guillermo Rodriguez, Gwynne Rukenbrod Smith, Sharon Trammel

Board Members Absent: Jay Fields

Staff in Attendance: Brenda Mills, Caroline Long, Barbara Whitehorn, Frank McGowan,

Guests in Attendance: Abby Roach, "The Spoon Lady"

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Ferree called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm. Mr. Rodriguez made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. STAFF UPDATE

Ms. Mills gave an update on the Maintenance & Repair report. She also noted that the PACC is going to give Council an update any policy updates for consideration.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Mural Arts Project

Ms. Mills gave an update on the 123 Graffiti Free program funding which had been considered for possible funding for a Mural Arts Program. She noted that there are city-owned areas which could be utilized for mural installation. Ms. Bowen asked who would administer the pilot program, and Ms. Mills stated she and Debbie Ivester would manage it. She asked the PACC to work first on the Public Art Master Plan before undertaking the Mural Arts Program.

b. New Committee Structure

Chair Ferree discussed the reorganization of the Committees, which are the Communications, Promotions, and Community Engagement Committee; Curatorial and Education Committee; and Acquisitions. She noted that the Urban Trail Subcommittee is within the Communications, Promotions, and Community Engagement Committee. Ms. Trammel discussed the Curatorial and Education Committee's last meeting and asked the Commissioners for suggestions for future events. She noted they will be meeting every other month. Ms. Bowles noted that the Curatorial and Education Committee noted "work collaboratively with" the other Committees in their outline, and asked that the other Committees put a similar phrase in their document. Mr. Rodriguez made a motion to defer voting on the Committee policies, but to set up the committees and continue working on the policies in the meantime. Ms. Bowen seconded the motion, and none were opposed. The Committee agreed to continue working on wordsmithing the Committee policies.

c. Letter for National Endowment for the Arts Our Town Grant

Ms. Mills presented the draft version of the letter for the Commission's review. She stated the submission is due October 8th, the Arts Council will hear back in April, and final award will be in fall of 2016. Ms. Bowen made a motion to endorse the letter as it stands, Ms. Richards seconded the motion, and none were opposed.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Budget for FY16

Capital Improvement Projects: Ms. Whitehorn discussed the City's 1% for Art program. She stated the Finance department anticipates approximately \$357,000 of funds to be committed to Public Art through 2020. Ms. Rukenbrod Smith asked when the City would begin to spend the funds for art acquisition, and Ms. Mills stated City Staff would need to discuss, as the policy is not intended to be in place until FY16 (July 2015). The goal is to meet with city staff affected by the 1% CIP, submit the final report for the City Manager to review and share the information with the PACC next meeting.

b. Public Art 1% Program & Internal Policy

Public Art 1% Program & Internal Policy: Ms. Mills gave a general overview of the policy, discussed project eligibility, and asked the Commissioners for any questions.

c. PACC Foundation and Next Steps

Chair Ferree gave a presentation of the Commissioners priorities and the new cross-functional teams which will begin working on them. She also discussed public-private partnerships and working with other local groups to increase public art presence in Asheville.

d. Current Committee Updates

There were no updates.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Roach urged the Commission to start thinking about ways to ensure that street artists and buskers can stay in Asheville. She asked why busking is under the purview of the Public Safety Committee rather than the Public Art Committee. Councilman Bothwell gave an overview of the current public safety issues of handicapped individuals who are often prevented by large concentrations of buskers from safely traversing City sidewalks and are sometimes forced to walk in the street. He stated that City staff had discussed demarcating areas on the sidewalks to allow for specific-sized groups of buskers. He stated the Buskers' Alliance has created a four-page document with possible solutions.

7. FUTURE AGEND ITEMS

Ms. Bowen asked when items need to be submitted for the agenda. Ms. Mills stated she meets with the Chair approximately two (2) weeks before the meeting, and the final agenda is submitted a week before the meeting.

Mr. Rodriguez made a motion to adjourn, Ms. Bowen seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:28pm.